

Doug Owens proposes the following substitute bill:

1 **Water Loss Study Amendments**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Doug Owens

Senate Sponsor:

2 **LONG TITLE**

3 **Committee Note:**

4 The Legislative Water Development Commission recommended this bill.

5 Legislative Vote: 8 voting for 0 voting against 6 absent

6 **General Description:**

7 This bill directs the Division of Water Resources (division) to study reported data regarding
8 water loss.

9 **Highlighted Provisions:**

10 This bill:

11 ▶ defines terms;
12 ▶ requires the division to conduct a study regarding water loss;
13 ▶ requires the division to report the findings of the study;
14 ▶ imposes a repeal date; and
15 ▶ makes technical and conforming amendments.

16 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

17 None

18 **Other Special Clauses:**

19 This bill provides a special effective date.

20 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

21 **AMENDS:**

22 **63I-2-273 (Effective 05/06/26) (Superseded 07/01/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah
23 2024, Third Special Session, Chapter 5

24 **63I-2-273 (Effective 07/01/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 124

25 **ENACTS:**

26 **73-10-32.7 (Effective 05/06/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

29 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

30 Section 1. Section **63I-2-273** is amended to read:

31 **63I-2-273 (Effective 05/06/26) (Superseded 07/01/26). Repeal dates: Title 73.**

32 [Reserved] Section 73-10-32.7, Study regarding water losses, is repealed July 1, 2027.

33 Section 2. Section **63I-2-273** is amended to read:

34 **63I-2-273 (Effective 07/01/26). Repeal dates: Title 73.**

35 (1) Section 73-10-32.7, Study regarding water losses, is repealed July 1, 2027.

36 (2) Subsection 73-10g-607(5), regarding a requirement to report to an interim
37 committee, is repealed January 1, 2027.

38 Section 3. Section **73-10-32.7** is enacted to read:

39 **73-10-32.7 (Effective 05/06/26). Study regarding water losses.**

40 (1) As used in this section:

41 (a) "Division" means the Division of Water Resources.

42 (b) "Public water system" means the same as that term is defined in Section 19-4-102.

43 (2) The division shall, in conjunction with the Division of Drinking Water, conduct a study
44 regarding water loss by public water systems under which the division shall:

45 (a) compile and analyze water loss estimates based on system size from data provided by
46 a public water system for the period beginning January 1, 2015, and ending
47 December 31, 2024;

48 (b) provide an overview of industry standard water loss principles and practices,
49 including for both public system and end use water losses; and

50 (c) make recommendations on how to:

51 (i) improve water loss estimates and associated data reliability; and

52 (ii) reduce actual water losses.

53 (3) The division shall report the division's findings under the study described in Subsection
54 (2) to the Legislative Water Development Commission by no later than October 31,
55 2026.

56 Section 4. **Effective Date.**

57 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), this bill takes effect May 6, 2026.

58 (2) The actions affecting Section 63I-2-273 (Effective 07/01/26) take effect on July 1, 2026.